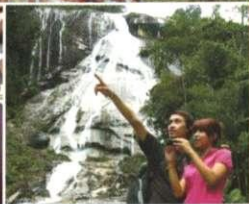


KELANTAN

Cradle of Malay Culture



Malaysia
Truly Asia

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Cradle of Malay Culture

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


















SOUTH AFRICA

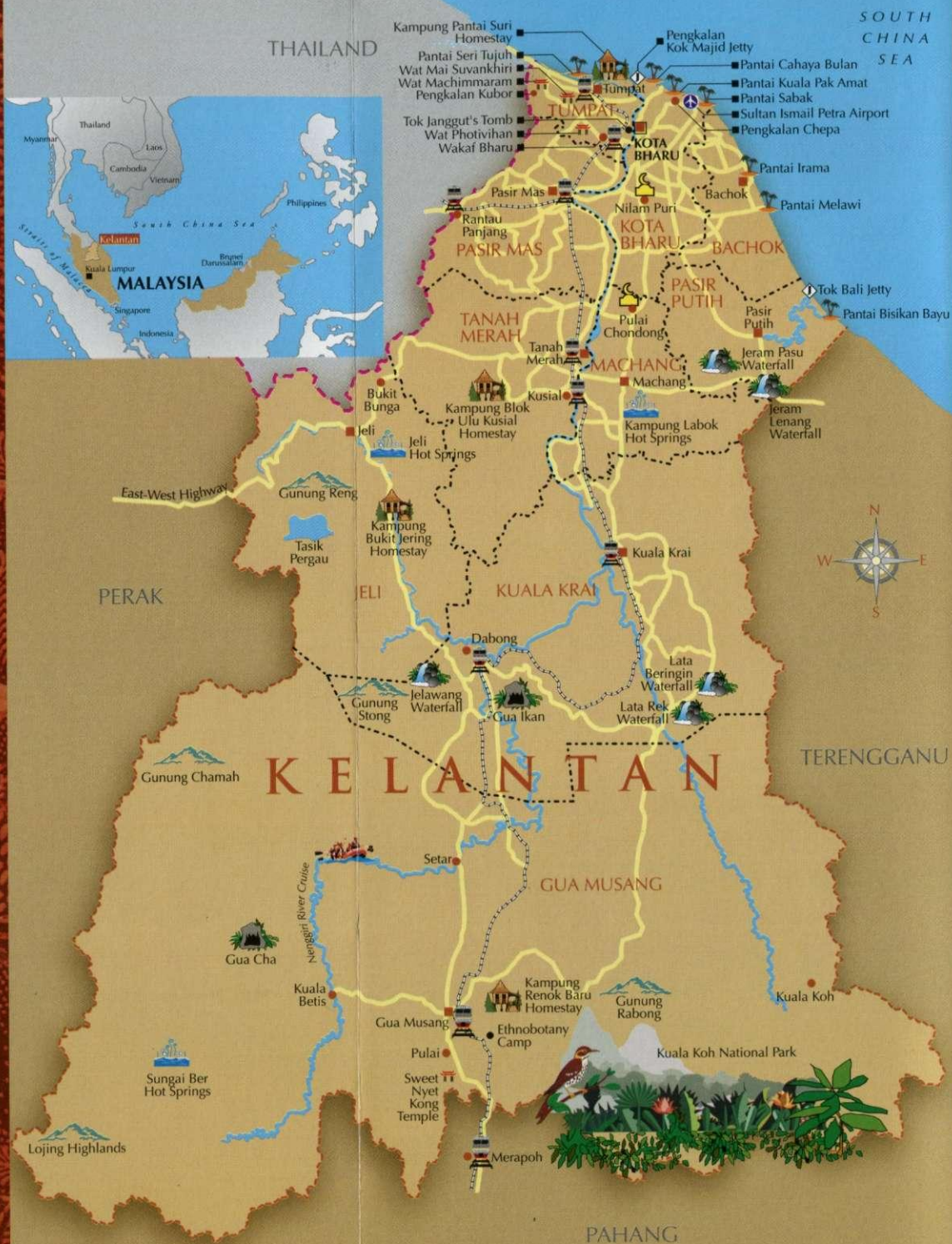
1st. Floor, Building Five
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LEGEND

-  State Capital
-  District Capital
-  Town
-  International Boundary
-  State Boundary
-  District Boundary
-  Federal Road
-  Railway
-  Railway Station
-  Airport
-  Mosque
-  Chinese / Buddhist Temple
-  Hill
-  Cave
-  Waterfall
-  Beach
-  Homestay
-  River Cruise / Rafting
-  Lake
-  Jetty
-  River
-  Hot Spring





Welcome to KELANTAN

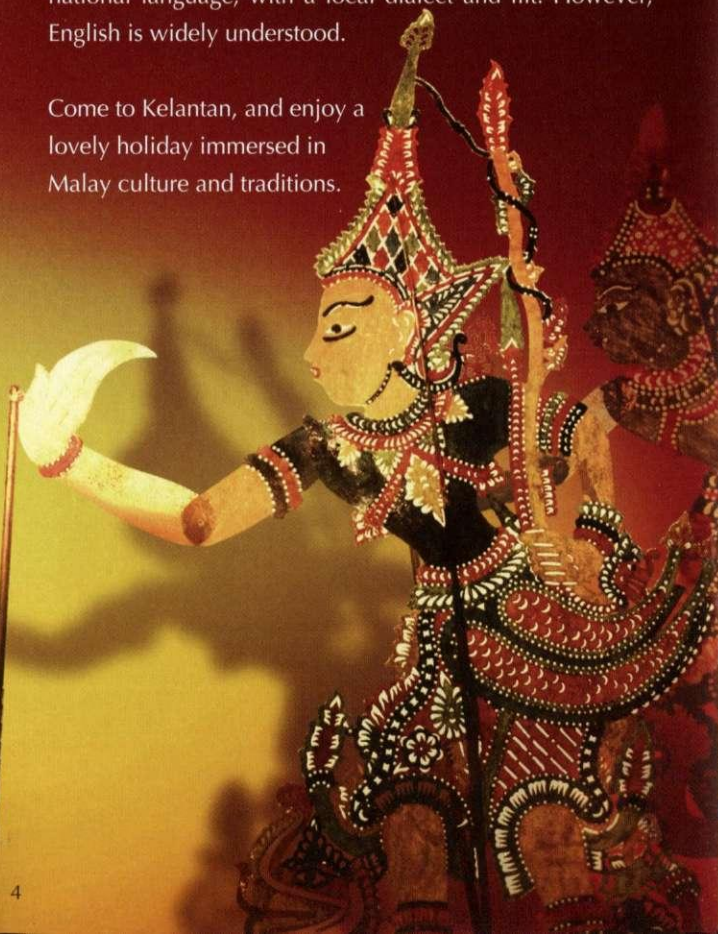
Situated in the east coast of Peninsular Malaysia, Kelantan is a charming destination steeped in culture and heritage. The land is home to some of Malaysia's most splendid cultural legacies such as *wayang kulit*, *dikir barat* and top-spinning. Many locals are skilled craftsmen, carrying on a tradition that has been passed down by their forefathers. Among the exquisite crafts that are produced here include ornate silverware, colourful giant kites, textiles, beautiful woodcarvings and brass work. Kelantan is also famed for its cottage industries, and some of the finest batik and *songket* fabrics in the country are products of the state.



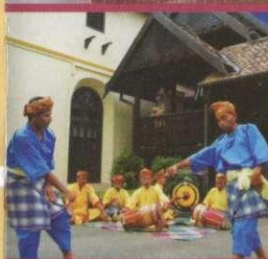
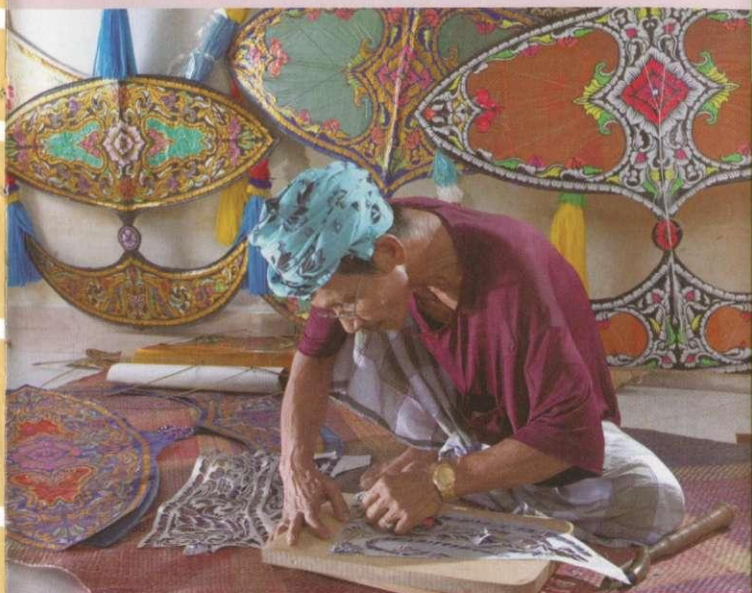
Kota Bharu, the capital, is a bustling town exuding an old-world charm. A number of the state's museums and historical attractions are situated in its vicinity. Other main towns are Bachok, Pasir Puteh, Tanah Merah, Tumpat and Gua Musang. Away from the towns, scenic views of riverine settlements, houses with thatched roofs and buffaloes grazing in the fields give the state a laid-back atmosphere and rustic charm. Look beyond Kelantan's simplicity, and you can see the graceful beauty that has withstood the test of time.

The heartland of Kelantan beckons nature lovers with a myriad of adventures. One excellent way to take in the sights is via the local train, which traverses the scenic countryside. The friendly locals speak Bahasa Malaysia, the national language, with a local dialect and lilt. However, English is widely understood.

Come to Kelantan, and enjoy a lovely holiday immersed in Malay culture and traditions.



RICH CULTURAL LEGACY



For the people of Kelantan, culture is held dear. Time-honoured practices and age-old customs still hold sway, and the cultural tapestry is made up of captivating traditional pastimes, colourful performances and exquisite crafts.

A trip to Kelantan will be incomplete without taking time to enjoy the many cultural performances, passionately and skilfully presented by the locals.



Gelanggang Seni / Cultural Centre

Jalan Mahmud, Kota Bharu

Locally known as Gelanggang Seni, the Cultural Centre is a veritable showcase of the state's rich cultural heritage. Watch an enthralling range of folk arts and traditional performances, such as *wayang kulit* or shadow puppetry, *silat* or the Malay martial arts, *gasing* or top-spinning, *wau* or giant kite-flying and *rebana ubi*, the giant drum. Gelanggang Seni is only open from February to September. Performances are held four times a week, on Sundays and Mondays (3.30pm-5.30pm) as well as Wednesdays and Saturdays (3.30pm-5.30pm and 9.00pm-11.00pm). The performance schedule can be found at major hotels, Tourism Malaysia Kelantan Office and the Kelantan State Tourist Information Centre.

Admission is free.

Tel: 09-748 5534/3543

Kampung Kraftangan / Handicraft Village

Kota Bharu

Set within a beautiful village setting, the complex houses a Craft Museum known as Balai Getam Guri, craft shops, tourism offices and a restaurant nearby. Performances and demonstrations are held from time to time at the courtyard. Visitors can buy unique souvenirs and handicrafts at the shops or take in the lovely views of its immaculately landscaped garden. Drop by at the Tourism Malaysia Office situated here for more information on the state's attractions.

Opening hours: 8.30am-4.45pm daily (except Fridays)

Admission to the Handicraft Village is free.

Tel: 09-744 3949

Visitors will have to pay an admission fee to enter the Craft Museum (refer to page 12).

❖ Kampung Kraftangan



Fast Facts

Country

Geographic

Location

Area

Population

People

Language

Religion

Government

Climate

Entry
Requirement

Currency

Banking Hours

Time

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System

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floraplace.com.

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Enthralling Pastimes and Performances

Wayang Kulit

This is a shadow play theatre, performed by casting animated puppet shadows on a white cloth screen. The puppet characters and stories are usually adapted from ancient epics. The master storyteller, or *tok dalang*, conducts the whole show from behind the screen by reciting the tale with appropriate sounds and movements. Hearing the storyteller change his voice to suit the different characters is one of the highlights of the show. The figures, made of cow or buffalo hide, can be ordered and purchased as souvenirs.

Dikir Barat

Unique to Kelantan, *dikir barat* is a lively group performance sung in an unmistakable local dialect. The lead singer or *tukang karut* belts out the lyrics while the group members repeat the chorus lines with rhythmic clapping and hand movements. The upbeat tempo and enthusiasm of the performers make it an engaging and highly entertaining show. *Dikir barat* is sometimes accompanied by traditional musical instruments such as *gong*, *rebana* (drum) and *serunai* (flute).

Gasing or Top-spinning

This traditional game requires physical dexterity, precision and strength. *Gasing* or the Malay top is made of metal or timber weighing as much as 5.5kg. It can sometimes be as big as a dinner plate. The top is launched into a spin by swiftly unfurling a rope wrapped around the body. Following this, it is scooped off the ground using a wooden bat and transferred onto a low post with a metal receptacle. In competitions, skilful spinners launch the *gasing* to spin for hours to outlast their opponents.

Wayang Kulit





Silat

A fascinating Malay martial art, *silat* features elaborate movements, precision timing and highly skilled manoeuvres. Originally used for self-defence, *silat* is today recognised as an international sport. It is often performed at weddings and ceremonial occasions.

Rebana Ubi

The beating of giant drums known as *rebana ubi* is a special feature at Kelantanese festivals. Vibrantly decorated, each drum can weigh up to 100kg. In the past, *rebana ubi* was used as a mode of communication, to make royal announcements, wedding proclamations or danger warnings. The great gusto of the drummers and the reverberating sound produced make it an awe-inspiring performance.

Kertok

A traditional xylophone, the *kertok* is fashioned from a large coconut shell. Its top is sliced off and a piece of wooden bar is fastened across to form a sounding board. Each part of the board produces a different tune. Decorated with strings of flowers, the brightly coloured *kertok* is a major feature in cultural performances and festive occasions in Kelantan.

Most performances take place at *Gelanggang Seni*. To enquire about other venues, contact Tourism Malaysia Kelantan Office or the Kelantan State Tourist Information Centre.



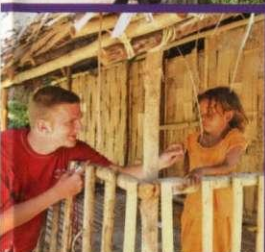
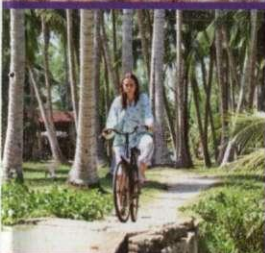
Saying it

Good morning
Good night
Thank you
Welcome
Goodbye
How are you?
I'm fine
I'm sorry
Rice
Vegetables
Meat
Fish
Beach

A Practical

- Banks, government offices, Sunday hours are 9.00am to 4.00pm
- Museums
- On Friday, most Muslim shops and counters close
- When entering a mosque, women should wear a headscarf and a long-sleeved dress for female visitors. A permit is required for non-Muslims to enter.
- The majority of the population are Muslims, so it is best to do the same.
- Most Malaysians are friendly and open to kissing on the cheek.
- Muslims are not allowed to eat or drink in restaurants.
- Shopping hours are from 10.00am until late evening.
- There are many beautiful and delightful places to visit, especially in the coastal areas.
- Five-star hotels are available in all major cities and towns.
- The sea is beautiful and the weather is perfect from February to April, especially for those who love to continue their holiday.
- During the festival, there are many operators who offer tours and activities.

HOMESTAYS



Escape to a rustic village tucked away amidst palm trees and fruit orchards. A homestay programme in Kelantan offers you the chance to live with the family of fisherfolk, farmers, kite-makers, silversmiths, batik-painters and other artisans. Wake up to the chirping of birds and join your host family in their daily activities. Participate in traditional pastimes, learn how to cook a local dish or watch cultural shows. Take back fond memories of your homestay.

Kampung Pantai Suri Tumpat

Imagine living in a wooden house on stilts, on a rustic and picturesque island. In Pantai Suri fishing village, visitors can live with fisherfolk and join in their daily activities. Watch traditional performances, join cooking classes and even go deep-sea fishing! The village is 30 minutes away by boat from the Pengkalan Kok Majid Jetty in Tumpat.

Kampung Blok Ulu Kusial Tanah Merah

Savour fresh coconut water as your welcome drink and sample *durians*, touted as 'the king of fruits'. The lush greenery here abounds with a variety of birds, butterflies, flowers and herbs. A range of activities await you - join a *dikir barat* performance, or learn how to play *kertok*, a musical instrument. The village is about an hour's drive from Kota Bharu.

Kampung Renok Baru Gua Musang

A rafting adventure to the Nenggiri River is among the highlights of a homestay experience here. Visitors can traverse an aboriginal settlement area, camp under the stars and take a refreshing dip at the waterfall. The friendly villagers are mostly farmers and rubber tappers. It is a 20-minute drive from Gua Musang town.

Kampung Bukit Jering Jeli

Situated about 130km from Kota Bharu, this village lies close to natural attractions such as the Stong State Park, Jelawang Waterfall and Pergau River. Aside from the outdoor pursuits, visitors can take delight in traditional pastimes such as top-spinning or enjoy a round of *sepak takraw*, a rattan ball game.

To arrange a homestay visit, kindly contact the Tourism Malaysia Kelantan Office or Kelantan State Tourist Information Centre.

Note: These homestay programmes adhere to the strict rules imposed by the Malaysian Ministry of Tourism and National Homestay Association.



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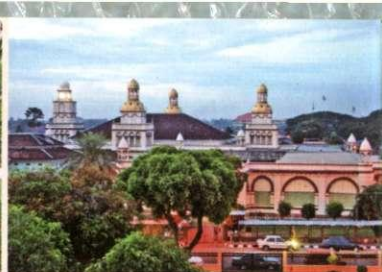
* Refer to page

GLIMPSES OF THE PAST



Kelantan has a long history that will fascinate and intrigue visitors. Its early links with China and Thailand, its role as the centre of Islamic learning in the region and its successive eras under the British rule and Japanese occupation have all shaped and coloured its historical landscape.

There are a number of sites here that relate to World War II. The War Museum in Kota Bharu offers an absorbing collection of materials.



Kota Bharu's main historical zone is situated along Jalan Hilir Kota and Jalan Sultan. Many museums are within walking distance to one another.

State Museum

Jalan Hospital, Kota Bharu

This treasure trove showcases a splendid collection of exhibits and documents on Kelantan's arts, crafts and musical traditions. Highlights include artefacts from local archaeological sites that provide evidence of the pre-historic age in Kelantan. Other displays include ceramics that testify to the early trade with China. This museum incorporates the State Art Gallery. The main office of the Kelantan State Museum Corporation is also situated here. Historically, the building served as the Land Office from colonial times until 1990 when major renovations were carried out to convert it into a museum.

Opening hours: 8.30am-4.45pm daily (except Fridays)

Admission fee: RM1.00 (Malaysians) RM2.00 (Non-Malaysians)

Tel: 09-748 2266

Craft Museum / Balai Getam Guri

Kampung Kraftangan, Kota Bharu

Come and view a marvellous collection of local crafts, such as traditional embroidery, *songket*, batik, silver and many more. The display of tools and equipment help visitors to understand the history and the process of making these splendid crafts. (refer to page 6).

Opening hours: 8.30am-4.45pm daily (except Fridays)

Admission fee: RM1.00 (Malaysians) RM2.00 (Non-Malaysians)

Tel: 09-748 2266/744 3949

✦ State Museum



Getting

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Islamic Museum

Jalan Hilir Kota, Kota Bharu

In its heyday, Kelantan was hailed as the 'Annexe to Mecca' for its role in developing Islam in the region. The state was acclaimed as a centre for Islamic learning, with renowned scholars and teachers who came from various parts of the Malay archipelago. Learn more about the glorious era in this museum. Captivating exhibits here include the replica of a traditional maisonette, photographs of scholars, pictures of the world's great mosques, a photographic collection of Prophet Muhammad's personal belongings as well as Islamic arts and crafts from China, Iran, Mecca, the Philippines and Turkey. The museum is housed in a large two-storey traditional wooden building, which used to be the state's first school for religious studies. It is also known as Balai Syura.

Opening hours: 8.30am-4.45pm daily (except Fridays)

Admission is free.

Tel: 09-748 2266

Royal Museum / Istana Batu


Jalan Hilir Kota, Kota Bharu

Step into a splendid repository of the Kelantan royal family regalia. This museum features the social activities and personal lives of the state's royal family, and showcases treasured collections such as photographs, costumes, beautiful crystals, silverware, antique furniture as well as palace items of former Sultans. Completed in 1939, this palace was a wedding gift to His Royal Highness Sultan Yahya Petra, from his uncle Sultan Ismail. It served as the residence of the Kelantan royal family until 1961 and was turned into a royal museum in 1991.

Opening hours: 8.30am-4.45pm daily (except Fridays)

Admission fee: RM1.00 (Malaysians) RM2.00 (Non-Malaysians)

Tel: 09-748 7737

 Istana Batu



Museum of Royal Traditions and Customs / Istana Jahar

Jalan Hilir Kota, Kota Bharu

Be enthralled by the grandeur of royal Malay customs and traditions in this museum. The dioramas and ceremonial chambers here showcase the elaborate traditions and ancient rituals for occasions such as engagements, weddings, births, umbilical cord trimmings and bathing. Built in 1887, the building is a fine example of the state's supreme craftsmanship, with intricately carved wooden panels, iron grills, elaborate roofs and a beautifully designed arched stairway.

Opening hours: 8.30am-4.45pm daily (except Fridays)

Admission fee: RM1.00 (Malaysians) RM2.00 (Non-Malaysians)

Tel: 09-748 2266

War Museum / Bank Kerapu

Jalan Sultan, Kota Bharu

This is an excellent place to begin your discovery of World War II in Kelantan. The museum boasts a fascinating repository of documents, pictures and military paraphernalia relating to the war and the Japanese occupation in the country from 1941 to 1945. Artefacts include Japanese swords, mortar shells and submarine mines. Not-to-be-missed highlights are documents that outline the chronology of war in Kelantan, as well as personal accounts of survivors. Outdoor displays include a tank and the replica of a pill box.

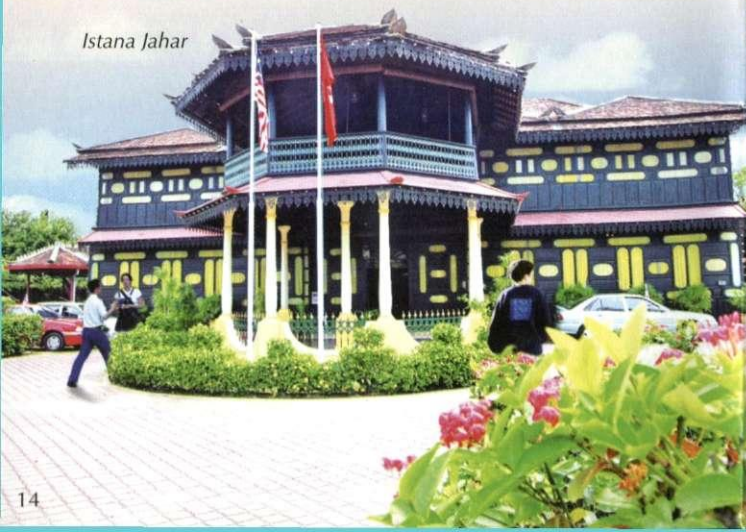
This historic building was constructed in 1912 as a bank of the Mercantile Bank Group. It has the distinction of being the first stone building in the state and one of the first banks in Kelantan. The rough and uneven surface of the walls led to its moniker, 'Bank Kerapu'. During the war, the building served as the headquarters of the Japanese Kempetai, the feared secret police. It was turned into a war memorial by the Kelantan State Museum Corporation in 1992.

Opening hours: 8.30am-4.45pm daily (except Fridays)

Admission fee: RM1.00 (Malaysians) RM2.00 (Non-Malaysians)

Tel: 09-748 2266

Istana Jahar



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Istana Balai Besar

Jalan Hilir, Kota Bharu

This resplendent edifice was built by Sultan Muhammad II in 1840. Featuring carved wooden panels and intricate framework, the palace reflects the grandeur of the state's architecture. Formerly the residence of past Sultans, it now serves as the venue for official functions and ceremonial occasions. Although it is not open to visitors, the magnificent architecture makes it a popular spot for photography. Nearby is the Bank Pitis or former Kelantan Treasury, built between 1889 to 1890.

British Pill Boxes

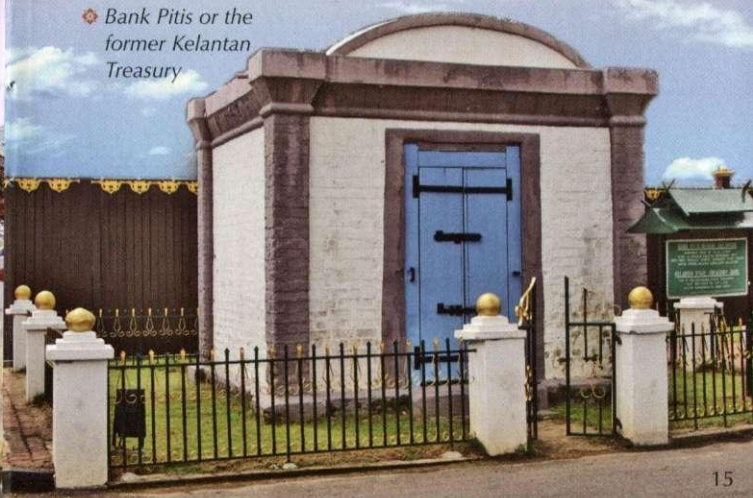
Pill boxes are a unique attraction and a tangible legacy of the World War II in Kelantan. These pill boxes are hardened concrete bunkers built by the British to defend themselves in the battle. There used to be a large number of pill boxes along the state's coastline, but many have succumbed to the forces of nature and erosion. Today, pill boxes still stand at Pengkalan Chepa, Pantai Melawi and Rhu Dalam Village. A replica of the pill box can be seen at the War Museum in Kota Bharu.

Pantai Kuala Pa'Amat

Sering

This beach is a site of great historical significance, where the Japanese troops first landed to invade British Malaya. It is said that the assault on Kuala Pa'Amat Beach at 12.25am on 8 December 1941 was 1½ hours before the attack on Pearl Harbour due to the difference in the International Date Line. A fierce battle ensued and many soldiers fought valiantly till death. Today, the former battlefield is a quiet, secluded beach and a nostalgic destination for war veterans and their families. The Peace Monument here describes the 'landing assault'. This beach is situated about 12km from Kota Bharu.

✦ Bank Pitis or the
former Kelantan
Treasury



Kusial Bridge

Kuala Krai

Formerly known as Guillemard Bridge, this structure was named after Sir Lawrence Guillemard, the British Governor and High Commissioner of the Straits Settlements at the time. It was completed in 1924 and officially opened by the Sultan a year later. Initially the bridge was used for both trains and road vehicles. However in 1941, it was deliberately destroyed to prevent the advancement of the Japanese army. Guillemard Bridge was reopened in 1948 and has since been used for trains. Visitors who board the local train from Tanah Merah to Kuala Krai will get a chance to pass through the bridge.

Padang Merdeka / Merdeka Square

Kota Bharu


This is a historical landmark in the city. Originally named Padang Bank, it was renamed Padang Merdeka (Independence Square) after the country's Independence in 1957. Visitors will find a World War I memorial that pays tribute to the unknown heroes who perished in the war. Padang Merdeka is also the site where the body of Tok Janggut, a Malay warrior, was hung. Today, Padang Merdeka is the site of official parades and functions. Nearby, the Sultan Ismail Petra Arch stands imposingly.

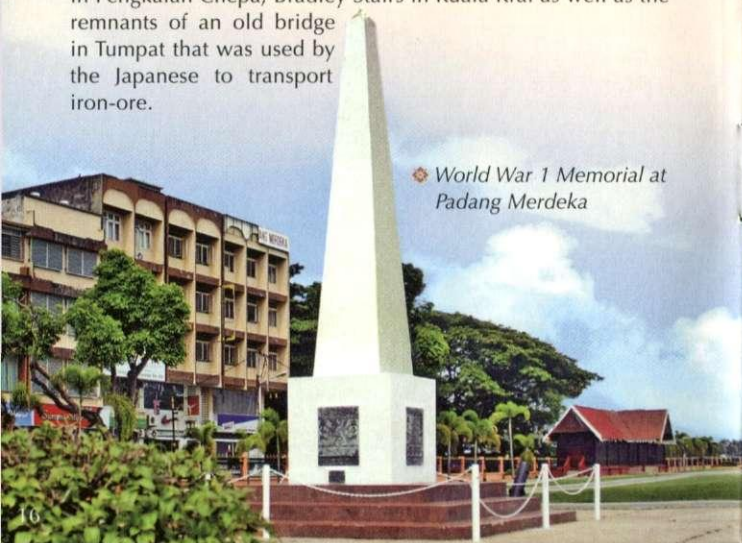
Tok Janggut's Tomb

Kampung Pasir Pekan, Tumpat

Haji Mat Hassan Bin Panglima Munah or better known as Tok Janggut, was a Malay warrior who fought against the British rule in Kelantan. He organised an uprising in Pasir Puteh, to protest against the hefty land taxes imposed on the locals. Tok Janggut was killed in a fierce battle with the British in 1915. His body was hung to be displayed at Padang Bank (now known as Padang Merdeka) before being laid to rest at a place now called Kampung Pasir Pekan.

Other historical sites in the state include a peace monument in Pengkalan Chepa, Bradley Stairs in Kuala Krai as well as the remnants of an old bridge in Tumpat that was used by the Japanese to transport iron-ore.

 World War 1 Memorial at Padang Merdeka



Songket

Songket is a traditional Malay silver thread weaving technique. It is a by all, especially in Kelantan, weaving fine textile using a loom. It is 4km north of Kuala Krai.

Kelantan

Kelantan is a state in Malaysia. The skilled artisans in Kelantan weave earrings, traditional headgear, and other items. Kampung Songket is a village known for its Songket weaving.

Woodcarving

Kelantan is known for its woodcarving. The artisans in Kelantan carve wooden boards, doors, and other items. Popular destinations for woodcarving include Kuala Krai and Kota Bharu.

Dining

Dining in Kelantan is a delightful experience. The staple food is nasi lemak, which is served in various ways. Other popular dishes include ayam penyet, ikan bakar, and daging masak lemak. There are many restaurants and food stalls in Kelantan, offering a wide variety of dishes.

There are many beautiful places to visit in Kelantan. Some of the popular destinations include Kota Bharu, Kuala Krai, and Tumpat. Each place has its own unique charm and attractions.

Among the many beautiful places to visit in Kelantan, Jalan Padar, Siti Khadijah, and Jalan Pantar are some of the most popular. Each place has its own unique charm and attractions.



PLACES OF WORSHIP

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There are several interesting places of worship in Kelantan. The state's mosques were renowned as centres for Islamic missionary activities and religious studies. The Al-Muhammadi Mosque was one of the most prominent, with a teaching system that is similar to the one practiced in Masjidil Haram in Mecca.

The Buddhist temples or wats are another unique attraction here.

Masjid Al-Muhammadi / State Mosque

Jalan Sultanah Zainab, Kota Bharu

A significant landmark in the city, this mosque features graceful arches and golden-coloured domes. It was named the Al-Muhammadi Mosque as a tribute to the late Sultan Muhammad IV for his contributions to the state. It was reconstructed to the present stone building in 1925, during the reign of Sultan Ismail. In the 18th century, the mosque was a centre for Islamic missionary activities, and well-known religious scholars such as Tuan Taba and Tok Kenali carried out their teachings here. Upon completing their learning in this mosque, students will pursue their studies in Mecca. The State Mosque is today the official venue for state-level religious activities and functions.

Masjid Kampung Laut

Nilam Puri, Kota Bharu

This mosque is acclaimed as the oldest in the state, and one of the oldest in the Malay archipelago. Originally located in Kampung Laut, Tumpat, the mosque was moved here in 1968 after the great flood. The Kampung Laut Mosque was said to have been built by Islamic missionaries who travelled between Champa and Jawa, with the help of some locals. Although there are no records of the mosque's age, it is noted to have similarities to the Demak Mosque in Jawa, built in 1401.

Masjid Langgar

Kota Bharu

Boasting palace-style carvings, this mosque has the distinction of being the only 19th century wooden mosque that is still being used in the state. It is said to have been built in 1874. Beside it stands a newer structure, constructed in 1987. Menara Pulau Condong in Machang is another historic mosque built in 1856.

Visitors are advised to obtain permission before entering the mosques and observe its rules and regulations at all times. Ladies are required to wear headscarves. Female visitors to the State Mosque are required to wear robes, which can be collected at the International Islamic Centre (ICC), situated a short walk away.

✿ Masjid Kampung Laut



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There are a number of Buddhist temples or *wats* in Kelantan, especially in the district of Tumpat where there is a sizeable Chinese population. The temples attract a large number of devotees on Wesak Day, a Buddhist festival.

Wat Photivihan

Kampung Jambu, Tumpat

About 15km from Kota Bharu lies one of the most famous Buddhist temples in Kelantan. Wat Photivihan houses a statue of Reclining Buddha, believed to be the largest in Southeast Asia. It measures 40m in length, 11m in height and 9m in width. The Wat Laikatong, also in Tumpat, features a 43m 'Standing Buddha'.

Wat Machimmaram

Kampung Bunuhan, Jubakar, Tumpat

A magnificent statue of Sitting Buddha is the striking attraction of this temple. It is said to be the second largest of its kind in Southeast Asia. Seated in a meditative pose on a lotus blossom, the statue measures 30m in height and 47m in width. It is also acclaimed to have lips made of pure gold. Chinese folklore statues, dragon-adorned pillars and intricate carvings are other intriguing features here.



Wat Mai Suvankhiri (Dragonboat Temple)

Kampung Bukit Tanah, Tumpat

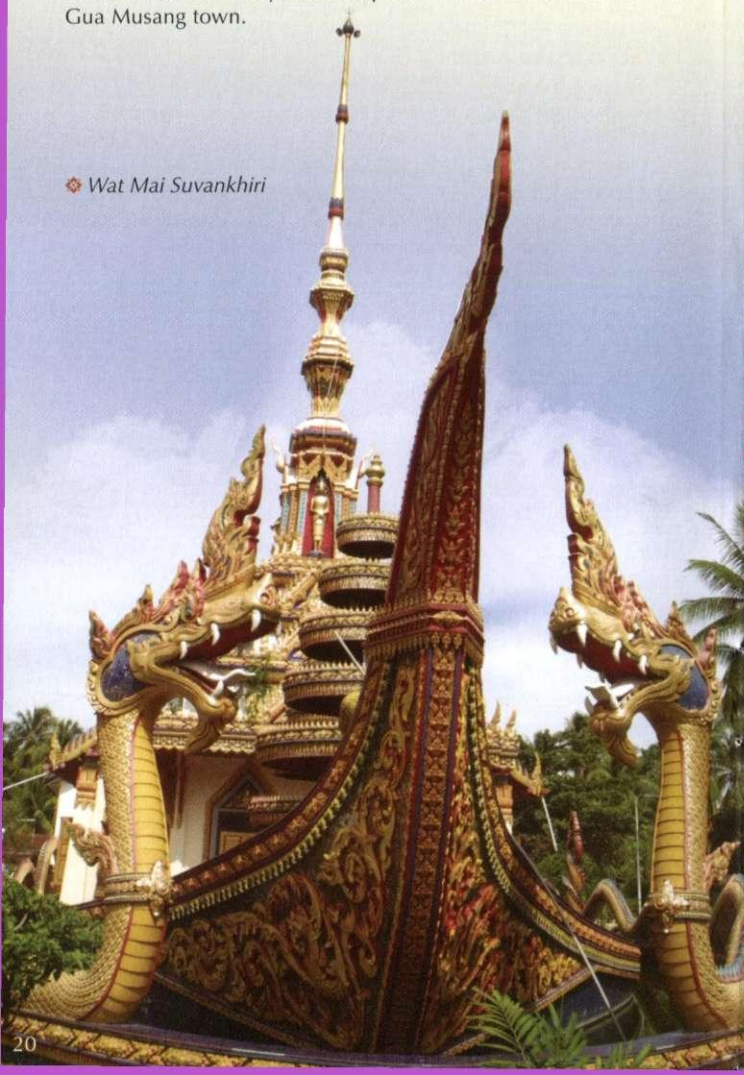
Covering four hectares, this breathtakingly beautiful complex consists of two main temples. A unique attraction here is that the main temple is housed within the replica of a huge dragon boat. Guarding the entrance are two magnificent dragons, each said to be around 150 feet long. The ornate decorations make these temples an astounding sight.

Sweet Nyet Kong Temple

Kampung Pulai, Gua Musang

Believed to be over 500 years old, the Sweet Nyet Kong Temple, or 'Water, Moon Temple' was built by the earliest Hakka Chinese community in Kelantan. A month-long festival, held annually in March, is celebrated on a grand scale to pay homage to Kuan Yin, the Goddess of Mercy. This temple is situated about 7km from Gua Musang town.

✧ *Wat Mai Suvankhiri*

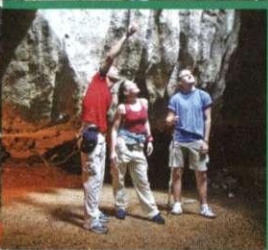


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NATURE & ADVENTURE



The rugged landscape of Kelantan's interiors makes it a paradise for eco-adventures. Its mountainous terrain provides the excellent backdrop for various activities such as jungle-trekking, river rafting, caving and rock-climbing. Among Kelantan's eco-treasures are Kuala Koh National Park and Jelawang Waterfall, the highest seven-tiered waterfall in Southeast Asia. The state is also home to some of Malaysia's richest archaeological caves.

Many of Kelantan's natural attractions are situated in Gua Musang, the largest district in the state. The quaint town of Dabong is the gateway to most places of interest here. Both Gua Musang and Dabong are accessible by the local train service (Refer to pages 25 and 43). Gua Musang is also accessible by bus and taxi services.

Kuala Koh National Park

Gua Musang

Kuala Koh National Park is a section of Taman Negara, Malaysia's premier national park which straddles across Kelantan and two other neighbouring states (refer to page 40). Taman Negara is one of the oldest rainforests in the world, estimated to be 130 million years old. It boasts one of the world's most complex and rich ecosystems. Kuala Koh serves as its northern entry point and is said to have the best potential for wildlife sighting.

Spread over 1,043 sq km, this dense undisturbed jungle is home to various flora and fauna. It is a paradise for nature-lovers, with an exciting range of activities and pursuits. Over 200 species of birds are known to exist in the park and experienced bird-watchers have seen more than 150 species within a few days! Visitors who stay overnight at the observation hides (*bumbun*), may catch a glimpse of the shy wildlife that visit the salt-licks nearby. For trekkers, there are jungle trails of varying distances and degrees of difficulty. A natural marvel here is the 'Ara Circle', where visitors can walk under the roots of a giant Ara tree (*Ficus spp.*). The crystal clear rivers in Kuala Koh are perfect for kayaking or bamboo rafting. Don't miss a visit to the Batek indigenous settlement to watch fire-making and blowpipe demonstrations. Facilities in the park include accommodation (chalets and dormitories), a campsite and a restaurant.

Note: Visitors intending to go jungle-trekking or planning any river activities are required to report at the administrative office. The services of guides are highly recommended and encouraged. Please take note that fishing is only allowed at designated areas. The restaurant is closed during the Muslim fasting month.

Permits and Licences:

Entry Permit: RM1.00

Fishing Licence: RM10.00

Camera Licence: RM5.00

Camping: from RM1.00-RM2.00

Chalets: RM50.00 per night

Dormitory: RM12.00 per person

Tel: 09-928 6952 (Kuala Koh National Park)

: 09-912 2940 (Wildlife Department Office)

Pantai Melaka

Bachok

A drive along the countryside to the sea, the Gazebo, a restaurant here is a pleasant surprise. Pantai Melaka

Pantai Irama

Bachok

Attracting drive to the assortment of seating areas, a variety of local choice is beyond a snack or bring beach is a 35

Pantai Seri

Tumpat

This pristine Festival. Water food stalls attract tourists going located about





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Gunung Stong (Mount Stong)

Jelawang, Kuala Krai Selatan

This is one of the most popular eco-adventure destinations in Kelantan. Gunung Stong is situated in Stong State Park, along the fringes of Malaysia's massive Titiwangsa range. Sprawled over 61,734 hectares, the park abounds with exotic wildlife such as elephants, tigers, bears, gibbons, birds and insects. Unique plants such as Rafflesia, the world's largest flower, as well as varieties of palms and orchids are stunning attractions here.

Standing majestically at 1,433m, Gunung Stong is a favourite spot for trekking and mountain climbing. From here, a two-hour climb will take visitors to another one of Kelantan's star attractions - the spectacular Jelawang Waterfall. At a height of 303m, this seven-tiered waterfall is acclaimed to be the highest in Southeast Asia. Climbers often make Baha Camp, situated at the peak of the waterfall, as a stopover for the night. The summit of Gunung Stong can be reached with a further four or five hours of trekking. Baha Camp is the gateway to several other natural attractions.

For those who choose to enjoy nature at the foothills, the Stong Hill Resort provides basic accommodation. The services of qualified and knowledgeable guides can be obtained here.

Admission fee to Stong State Park: RM4.00

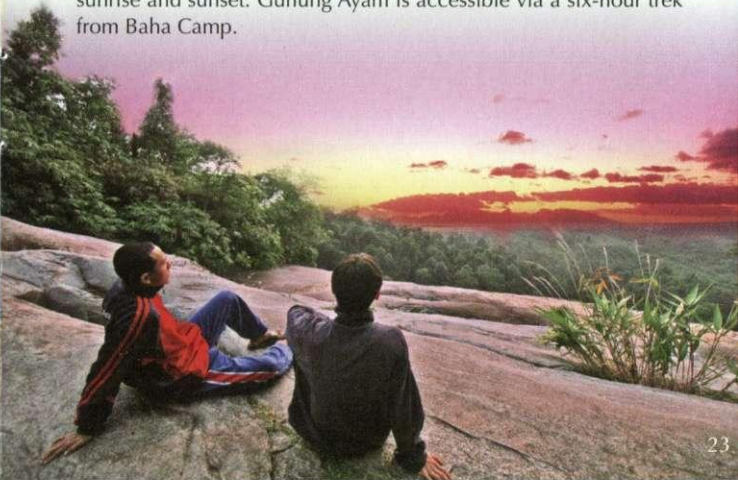
Tel : 09-936 0000 (Stong Hill Resort)

: 09-741 4279 (Stong State Park Office, Kota Bharu)

Gunung Ayam

Jelawang, Kuala Krai Selatan

Gunung Ayam stands about 70m higher than its neighbour, Gunung Stong. It is also the highest peak in the area. The climb to this 1,504m mountain is reputed to be more challenging and arduous but climbers are rewarded with breathtaking views of the sunrise and sunset. Gunung Ayam is accessible via a six-hour trek from Baha Camp.





Gunung Rabong and Gunung Chamah

Towering at 1,539m, Gunung Rabong in Gua Musang is one of the highest peaks in Kelantan. It is situated at the border of Kuala Koh National Park. A highlight here is abseiling down its seven waterfalls. Gunung Chamah, situated at the border of Kelantan and Perak, is considered to be one of the toughest mountains to climb. It stands at 2,171m and can be accessed via Kampung Kuala Betis in Gua Musang.

Rafting in Nenggiri River

Gua Musang

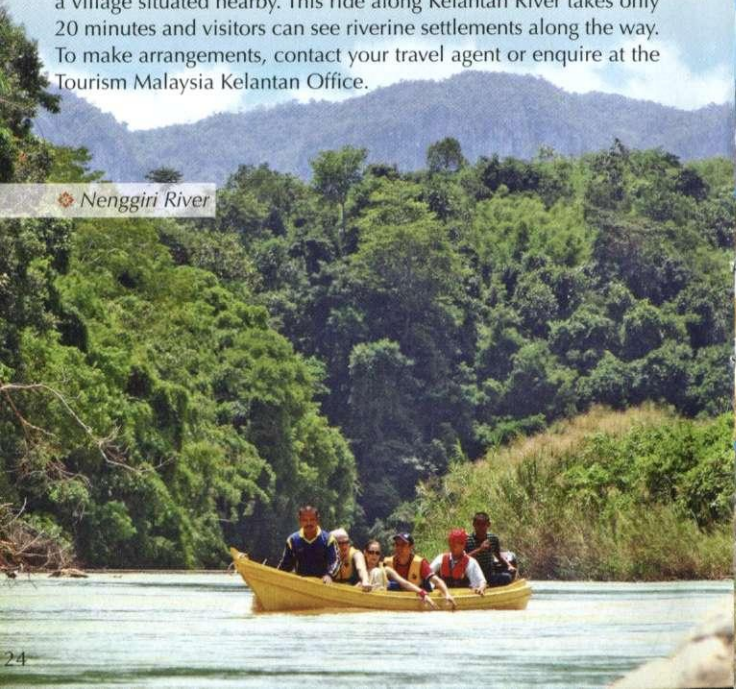
A wonderful way to take in the sights and sounds of nature is by rafting/cruising along the Nenggiri River. The majestic natural setting unveils breathtaking vistas of dense tropical vegetation and imposing limestone outcrops. Traverse riverine homes, aboriginal settlements, pre-historic caves and enjoy the simplicity and beauty of the state's hinterland. The riverine wetlands is home to monkeys, birds and squirrels. For more excitement, prepare your own meal and spend a night under the stars. Nenggiri River is also the site of the annual Nenggiri Challenge.

Tel: 09-912 6366 (KESEDAR Travel)

Boat Rides

Short boat rides can be arranged from Kota Bharu to Kampung Laut, a village situated nearby. This ride along Kelantan River takes only 20 minutes and visitors can see riverine settlements along the way. To make arrangements, contact your travel agent or enquire at the Tourism Malaysia Kelantan Office.

Nenggiri River



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Gua Musang

Situated just 3km away from Gua Musang town, this park offers numerous attractions. The Mini Herb Farm features more than a 100 varieties of herbs, many of which contain excellent medicinal properties. For adventure lovers, rock climbing and abseiling will be thrilling pursuits. The park has 30 routes on limestone outcrops for both beginners and expert climbers. Children and adults alike will enjoy a visit to the deer and ostrich farms located within. Accommodation, as well as obstacle course activities can be arranged for tour groups.

Admission is free but visitors will be charged for the services of guides and equipment.

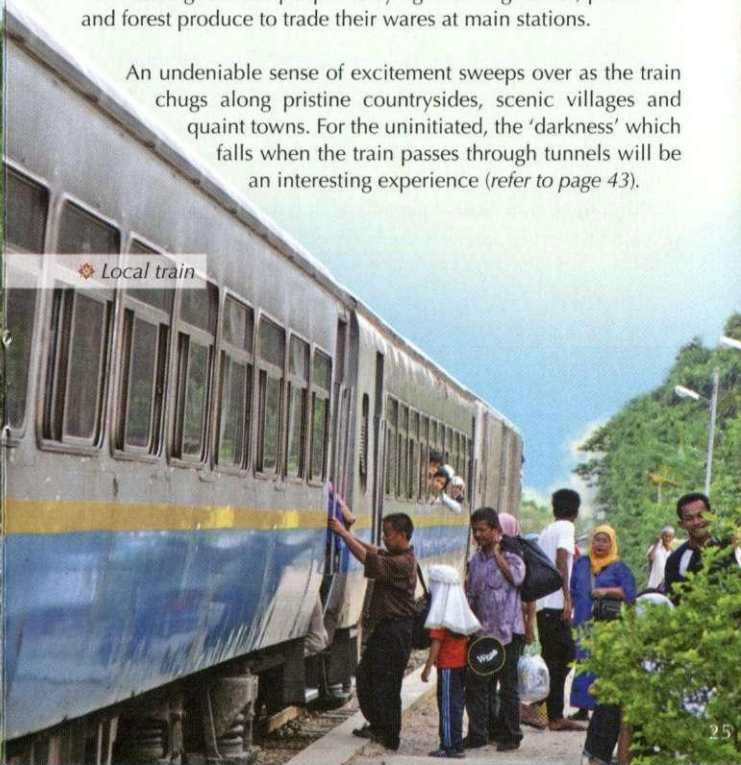
Tel: 09-912 1788/912 1229

Local Train Rides

When visiting the natural attractions in Kelantan, one experience that cannot be left out is a ride on the local train. Once known as the 'jungle train', the railway link was developed to serve the interiors and smaller villages that are not accessible by roads. Visitors too can take the train to experience a slice of the local lifestyle. Its regular commuters are students and locals, and it is a common sight to see people carrying fresh vegetables, provisions and forest produce to trade their wares at main stations.

An undeniable sense of excitement sweeps over as the train chugs along pristine countrysides, scenic villages and quaint towns. For the uninitiated, the 'darkness' which falls when the train passes through tunnels will be an interesting experience (refer to page 43).

Local train



Caving

The mountainous terrain in Gua Musang gives rise to a number of caves. Most caves are named after their resemblance to objects or animals. Visitors are advised to take note that these caves are not lighted. Arrange with your tour agent or guide to bring necessary equipment such as torch light and ropes.

Gua Ikan

Dabong

The most commonly explored caves in Dabong are Gua Ikan, Gua Keris, Gua Batu Susun (Gua Lubang Gelap) and Gua Pagar. Gua Ikan or Fish Cave is named after a solitary fish-shaped rock. It is purported to hold treasure hidden during the Japanese occupation. Visitors in search of a little excitement will not be disappointed as they can trudge through the stream that runs here. Gua Keris, Gua Batu Susun (Gua Lubang Gelap) and Gua Pagar have smaller passageways and more intricate routes, and present greater challenges.

Gua Cha

Gua Musang

Situated on the banks of the Nenggiri River, this limestone cave is one of the most actively researched archaeological sites in Peninsular Malaysia. It was first discovered in 1936. Research shows that the cave was the dwelling place of the Hoabinhian and Neolithic prehistoric communities. Various artefacts as well as human skeletons and cultural objects that were discovered here are now displayed in the National Museum in Kuala Lumpur.

Gua Sidang

Gua Musang

Purportedly a communists' camp in the past, the cave is said to have been used as a hideout to conduct clandestine meetings during the Communist Insurgency. The cave is supposedly large enough to accommodate nearly 300 people at one time. Other caves include Gua Batu Chawas and Gua Batu Chincin, which also contain evidences of prehistoric settlements. Gua Chawan, Gua Jaya and Gua Peraling make for interesting explorations.

Gua Ikan



Gunung Jeli

This solitary plain surrounded by hills here from a distance. Gunung Jeli is a small hill who purportedly has a cave chamber and a palace. Gunung Jeli is located in Jeli. Visitors to Kelantan is famous for its association with a daughter, Puan, many other visitors from Kota Bharu while Padang.

Lojing Hills

Gua Musang

Nestled at 1,177°C-22°C, Lojing air. Its elevation fruits such as a flower, Rafflesia. Tel: 09-912

Tasik Pergajeli

This is an 'explore nature' experience lake, create greenery park kayaking on chalets. The have the experience are advised are accessible Grik-Jeli Hills 15 minutes. Tel: 09-944 (call to arrange)





Gunung Reng

Jeli

This solitary limestone outcrop poses a striking contrast to its plain surroundings. According to folklore, the hill was flown here from another location, following a curse. Locals say that Gunung Reng is associated with the legend of Puteri Saadong, who purportedly made the caves as her home. Till today, the cave chambers here are said to resemble the chambers of her palace. Gunung Reng is situated along the East-West Highway in Jeli. Visitors are advised to get the services of a guide to enter. Kelantan is fondly known as 'The Land of Cik Siti Wan Kembang', for its association with this legendary warrior queen and her daughter, Puteri Saadong. Their legends can be traced to many other places in the state. Bukit Marak, about 20km from Kota Bharu, was said to be Puteri Saadong's dwelling place while Padang Halban is where her husband was laid to rest.

Lojing Highlands

Gua Musang

Nestled at 1,000 feet above sea level and with temperatures between 17°C-22°C, Lojing Highlands is an enclave of greenery and cool misty air. Its elevation makes it ideal for the growth of vegetables and tasty fruits such as persimmons and honey oranges. The world's largest flower, *Rafflesia*, can also be seen here.

Tel: 09-912 1788 (KESEDAR Office)

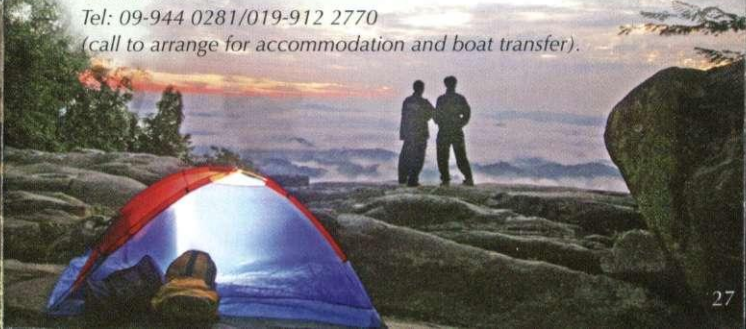
Tasik Pergau / Lake Pergau

Jeli

This is an excellent destination for those seeking a 'back to nature' experience. Lake Pergau is a 54 sq km man-made lake, created to serve a hydroelectricity project. The lush greenery provides the perfect setting for jungle trekking, kayaking or camping. A unique attraction here is its floating chalets. There are no shops in the lake area, so visitors can have the excitement of preparing their own meals. Visitors are advised to book early as places are limited. The chalets are accessible via the Tasik Pergau Jetty, situated along the Grik-Jeli Highway, about 18km from Jeli. The boat ride takes 15 minutes.

Tel: 09-944 0281/019-912 2770

(call to arrange for accommodation and boat transfer).



Tengku Anis Orchid Park

Kota Bharu

Step into an enclave of pretty blossoms! Operating under the auspices of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Kelantan, this park showcases a variety of colourful orchids. Floral festivals and displays are arranged annually to honour His Royal Highness The Sultan of Kelantan's birthday.

Opening hours: 9.00am-5.00pm daily.

Admission is free.

Waterfalls

Kuala Krai

Aside from the breathtaking Jelawang Waterfall (refer to page 23), visitors can make a trip to Lata Rek in Kuala Krai. Its series of cascading waterfalls, each less than 20m in height, makes it a popular recreational spot. Lata Beringin is another picturesque waterfall, with a 120m drop and lush green surroundings. It is situated off the Kuala Krai-Gua Musang Highway. Jeram Lenang and Jeram Pasu in Pasir Puteh are favourite weekend retreats.

Hot Springs

Enjoy a natural spa experience at the hot springs in Kampung Labok, Machang (about 40km from Kota Bharu). The Jeli Hot Springs (near the East-West Highway), is situated about 105km from Kota Bharu. The Sungai Ber Hot Springs is situated in Gua Musang and is only accessible by four-wheel drives.



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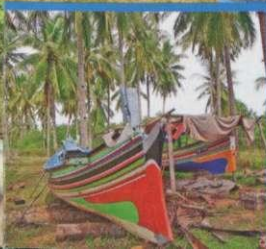
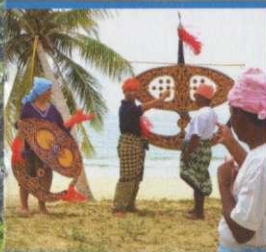
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SUN & SEA



There are several fine beaches in the state overlooking the South China Sea. Most beaches are within easy access from Kota Bharu. Accommodation at the beach areas range from modest chalets to simple beach huts.



Pantai Cahaya Bulan / Beach of Moonlight

Kota Bharu

Fondly known as 'PCB' among locals, this is one of the most popular spots for some refreshing coconut water and local snacks while enjoying the cool sea breeze. While rustic views and shady trees are the draw of PCB, the greater attraction lies along the route that leads to this beach. Thriving cottage industries can be seen on either side of the road, where modest thatched homes produce a range of exquisite items such as batik, *songket* and giant kites. This beach is situated 10km north of Kota Bharu. The many chalets here provide a leisurely stay.

En route, drop by at the Pasir Belanda Kampung Stay to experience life in a scenic Malay village. Watch a cooking demonstration, join a batik-painting workshop and participate in many other interesting activities.

Tel: 09-747 7046 (Pasir Belanda Kampung Stay)

Pantai Tok Bali

Pasir Puteh

One of the most idyllic beaches in Kelantan, Tok Bali is haven to those seeking solitude and tranquility. Overlooking the islands of Pulau Saji and Pulau Susu Dara, the beach beckons with swaying palm trees, golden sands and sparkling waters. There is a range of accommodation available in Tok Bali, from chalets to a modern beach resort. The Sudara Beach Resort here offers year-round accommodation. Tok Bali is approximately a 45-minute drive from Kota Bharu.



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Pantai Melawi

Bachok

A drive along a scenic route, traversing rustic villages and secluded countrysides, brings visitors to this beautiful beach. Stretching into the sea, the casuarinas-lined beach is ideal for long relaxing strolls. Gazebos, a resort and a playground add to its attraction. Of interest here is a pill box, situated within the Sri Melawi Chalet grounds. Pantai Melawi is approximately 30km from Kota Bharu.

Pantai Irama

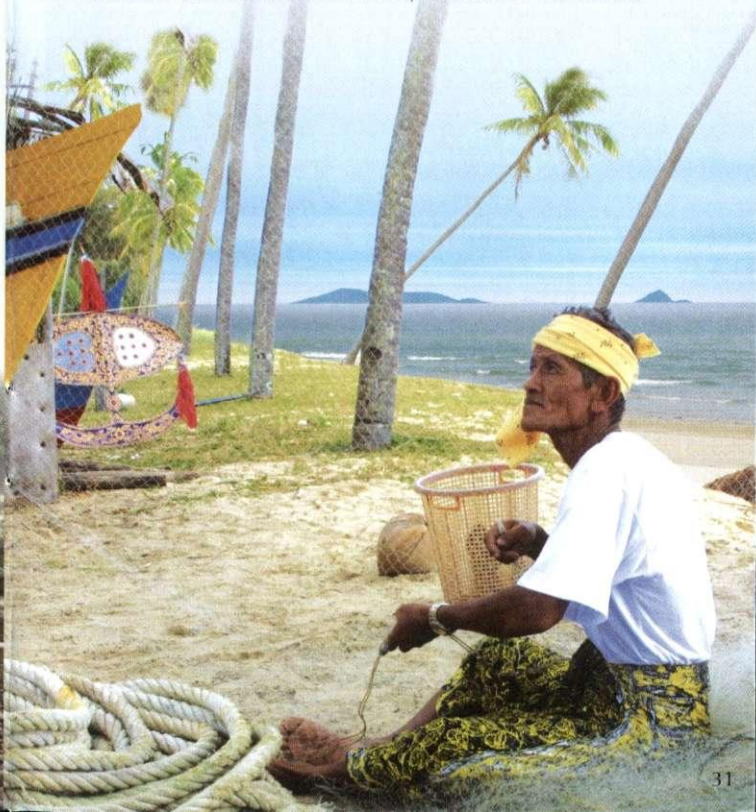
Bachok

Attracting droves of sun-seekers, this beach owes its popularity to the assortment of tantalising local delicacies as well as ample seating areas and gazebos. This is the place to sample a wide variety of local food from fritters, meat balls, nuggets to drinks. The choice is bewildering! Locals drop by at any time of the day for a snack or bring their families for a picnic during the weekends. This beach is a 35-minute drive from Kota Bharu.

Pantai Seri Tujoh / Beach of Seven Lagoons

Tumpat

This pristine beach is the venue of the annual International Kite Festival. Water chalets are an attraction at this beach and the many food stalls add to its popularity. Pantai Seri Tujoh is a stopover for tourists going to the Pengkalan Kubor duty-free shopping zone. It is located about 7km from Kota Bharu, close to the Thai border.



Pantai Bisikan Bayu / Beach of Whispering Breeze

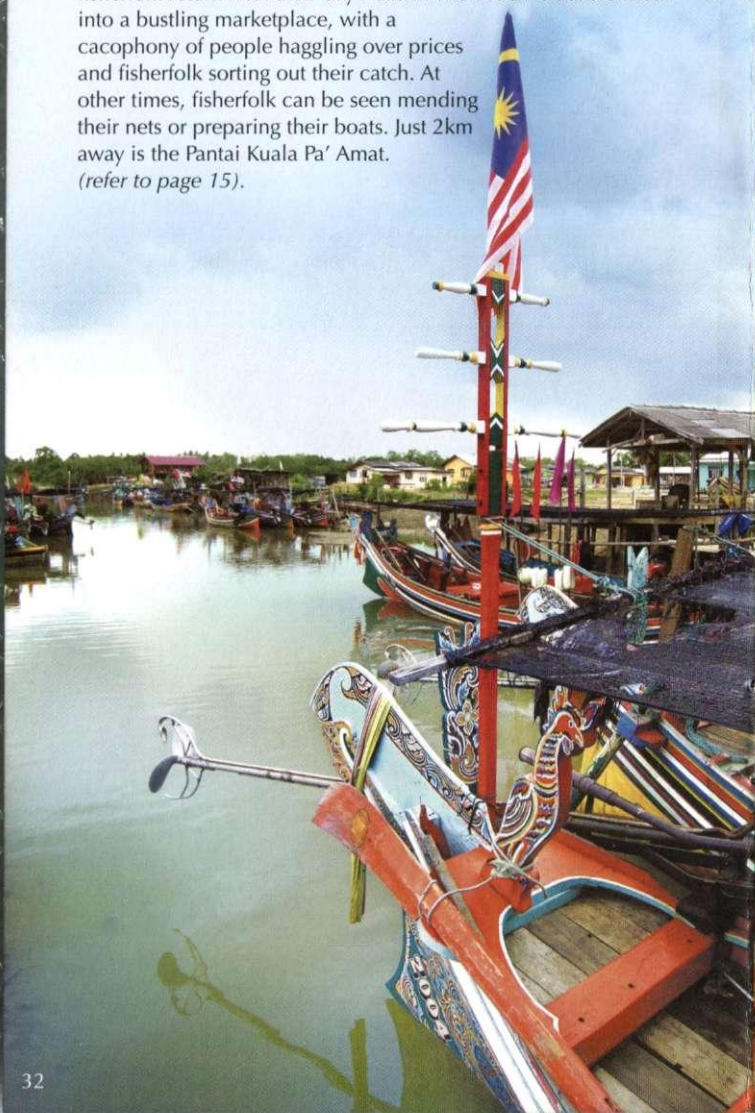
Pasir Puteh

This beach derives its name from the hushed sound of the gentle breeze against the casuarinas needles. It is also known as Pantai Dalam Rhu. Families often enjoy a picnic under the shady trees here. High waves during certain times of the year make it a good spot for windsurfing. This beach is located near Semerak, about 50km away from Kota Bharu.

Pantai Sabak Fishing Village

Kota Bharu

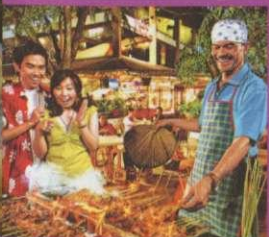
Gaily decorated fishing boats are a unique feature of the state. A good place to see these boats is at the fishing village in Pantai Sabak. The jetty here is at its liveliest around 3pm when fisherfolk return with their day's catch. The beach is transformed into a bustling marketplace, with a cacophony of people haggling over prices and fisherfolk sorting out their catch. At other times, fisherfolk can be seen mending their nets or preparing their boats. Just 2km away is the Pantai Kuala Pa' Amat. (refer to page 15).



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SHOPPING & DINING



Shopping in Kelantan will be a delightful experience as visitors can choose from a wide variety of exquisite craft items. Take your pick from intricate handcrafted souvenirs, dazzling silverware, eye-catching giant kites to fashionable batik and songket fabrics.

Pasar Siti Khadijah / Siti Khadijah Market

Kota Bharu

A visit to Kelantan will not be complete without a visit to the Siti Khadijah Market. This bustling bazaar is one of the landmark attractions of the state. In the mornings, locals flock here for a profusion of items from fruits, vegetables, freshly ground spices, fish cakes, dried seafood to pickles and many more. A unique feature here is that the majority of traders are women. The new wing of the market offers a bewildering array of mouth-watering local delicacies and cakes.

The market's colourful assemblage of goods and lively atmosphere make it an irresistible treat for shutterbugs. Its sights are best captured from the third floor. The market is open daily from 8.00am to 6.00pm.

Nearby, Laman Siti Khadijah features a clock tower that represents the twin cities of Kota Bharu and Kasaoka in Japan.

Bazar Buluh Kubu / Bamboo Fort Bazaar

Kota Bharu

This three-storey shopping complex is a not-to-be-missed spot for avid shoppers and collectors of craft items. Visitors can find everything imaginable from beautiful handmade shoes, miniature replicas of musical instruments, colourful kites, pretty bags, lovely silverware, rare accessories to a variety of other irresistible collectibles. The reasonable prices make it a popular spot for locals and foreigners alike.



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Wakaf Che Yeh

Kota Bharu

This is an open-air night market situated about 4km outside of Kota Bharu town. Sprawling over a quarter of an acre, Wakaf Che Yeh is the place for a profusion of merchandise from local snacks, fresh fruits and vegetables to seafood. There are also rows after rows of traders selling attires for both ladies and men.

Wakaf Che Yeh operates round the clock with multiple functions - it is a wholesale market in the mornings, wet market during the day and turns into a night market as the sun sets. Take a stroll and watch the interesting scenes that unfold - the haggling, the promotion of goods and the cheerful banter among traders.

Modern Shopping Malls

Kota Bharu

There are several modern shopping malls in Kota Bharu, including KB Mall in Jalan Hamzah, Billion Shopping Centre (next to Renaissance Hotel), as well as Pantai Timur Supermarket and Mydin Supermarket, both situated at Jalan Pintu Pong. The malls are equipped with food courts, supermarkets, pharmacies and retail outlets.

Shopping at Border Towns

One of the greatest attractions of shopping in Kelantan is the duty-free zones at the border of Thailand, where an assortment of goods is available at attractive prizes. In fact, many Malaysians make a trip to Kelantan with the main aim of indulging in a shopping spree! The towns of Rantau Panjang (45km from Kota Bharu) and Pengkalan Kubor (21km from Kota Bharu) are the most popular duty-free shopping zones. Visitors are spoilt for choice with a bewildering variety of goods, from trendy clothes, prayer mats, dainty tea sets, personal accessories to household equipment. More shopping can be done at Bukit Bunga in Jeli. All these towns are equipped with Immigration and Customs offices. Business hours are usually from 9.00am to 7.00pm. In Rantau Panjang, accommodation is available for overnight visitors.

✿ Rantau Panjang





Cottage Industries

Cottage industries have long been a popular feature of the state. Although many crafts are now being produced in factories, cottage industries still thrive and are a big draw among tourists. Kelantan's cottage industries are found mainly on the outskirts of Kota Bharu with the majority being not more than 10km from the town centre. The road to Pantai Cahaya Bulan is another highly recommended location for shoppers interested in cottage industries. Some of Kelantan's most popular souvenirs are products of cottage industries.

Popular Souvenirs

Batik

One of the most sought-after products in Kelantan, batik is a fabric available in floral, geometrical or abstract patterns. Originally worn as a sarong, these days batik is used to create fashionable scarves, shirts, pareos and other fashion items. The art of batik-painting consists of creating hand-drawn or printed motifs on a fabric, then applying waxes and dyes onto the cloth. Watch the artists create beautiful hand drawn patterns or try your hand at batik-painting. Batik factories are located in Kampung Putih, Kubor Kuda and Kampung Badan.

Wau or Giant Kites

Giant kites are a proud and distinct symbol of the state. Kelantan's kites are famed throughout Malaysia for their fine craftsmanship and beautiful designs. Requiring tremendous skill and patience, the art of kite-making is usually handed down through the generations. Popular types of kites are *wau bulan* (moon kite), *wau kucing* (cat kite) and *wau merak* (peacock kite). The kites that have been made here are regularly used in international competitions. In Kampung Kijang, visitors can watch how the giant kite is made and coloured as well as purchase exquisite souvenirs.





Songket

Songket or the Malaysian brocade is richly woven with gold or silver threadwork. Once exclusive to royalty, *songket* is now used by all, especially in weddings and ceremonies. In some *songket* weaving factories, visitors can watch ladies weaving this beautiful textile using traditional methods. Visit Kampung Penambang about 4km north of Kota Bharu to see this beautiful art.

Kelantan Silver

Kelantan is renowned for its 925 silver jewellery and silverware. The skilled silversmiths produce a variety of items such as rings, earrings, trays, cases and brooches. You can visit silversmiths at Kampung Sireh, Kampung Morak and Kampung Badang.

Woodcarving

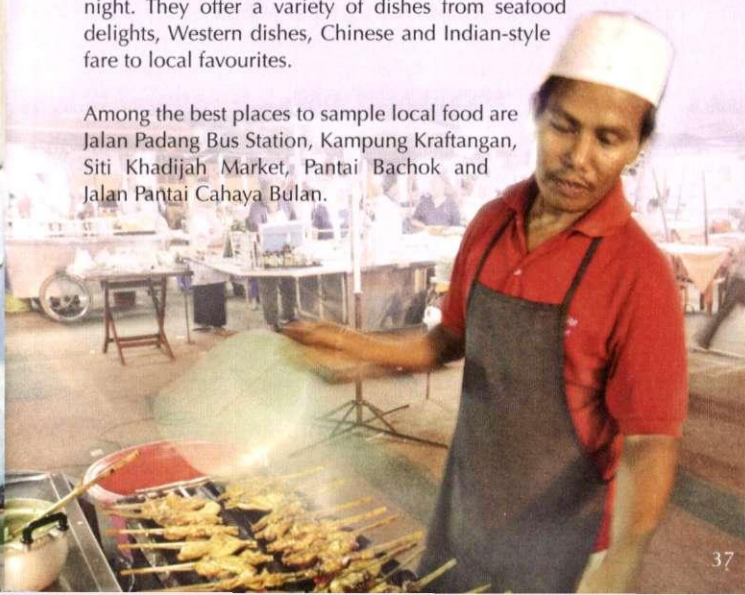
Kelantan's woodcarving is acclaimed as one of the best in the region. The artisans here produce ornate mirror frames, head boards, decorative panels for wall mounting and many more. Popular designs reflect floral motives and Islamic scriptures.

Dining

Dining in Kelantan will be an interesting experience. There is a delightful assortment of lip-smacking local fare. Rice, while being the staple food, is given wonderful twists and served in a variety of ways. Alternatively, visitors can opt for continental cuisine served at selected restaurants and hotels. Fast food outlets are available at the main towns.

There are a number of open-air restaurants that operate until late night. They offer a variety of dishes from seafood delights, Western dishes, Chinese and Indian-style fare to local favourites.

Among the best places to sample local food are Jalan Padang Bus Station, Kampung Kraftangan, Siti Khadijah Market, Pantai Bachok and Jalan Pantai Cahaya Bulan.



Authentic Kelantanese Favourites

Ayam Percik

This popular dish consists of chicken, marinated with a rich, spicy coconut gravy and barbecued until it is crispy and delicious. It makes a great meal by itself, or can be savoured with rice.

Nasi Kerabu

A rice-based dish served with coconut milk, flaked fish, desiccated coconut, spices and sauces. *Nasi kerabu* is sometimes yellow or purple in colour, a natural tinge derived from its many herbal ingredients.

Nasi Dagang

A combination of rice and glutinous rice, *nasi dagang* is often accompanied by spicy tuna fish curry and pickled vegetables. *Nasi dagang* is a breakfast staple among locals, although it can be enjoyed at any time of the day.

Budu

Another one of Kelantan's specialties, *budu* is a fermented anchovies sauce. Lemon juice, chilly and onions give it an added burst of flavour. Locals swear that nothing compares to a satisfying meal of rice with *ulam* (fresh or blanched vegetables), fried fish and *budu*.

Serunding

Serunding or meat floss is a local savoury snack. Thinly sliced meat is cooked with coconut milk and spices until it is light and fluffy. It makes a great accompaniment to bread or rice. Watch how *serunding* is made and sample it at Kampung Kepulauan, Tumpat.

Desserts

Visitors with a sweet-tooth would be happy to know that Kelantan has a tantalising variety of desserts. *Akok* is a popular delicacy, made from flour, *gula melaka* (palm sugar), eggs and coconut milk. The delicate and tricky method of its preparation has led it to be featured in 'Explorace', a local TV programme akin to 'The Amazing Race'. Visitors can watch *akok* being prepared at roadside stalls en route to Kampung Kepulauan in Tumpat. Another local favourite is *dodol*, a soft candy that takes hours of stirring in a large wok. Watch how *dodol* is made at Kampung Kepulauan. *Tahi itek*, made of sweetened eggs, is another sought-after delicacy. *Jala mas*, *nekbak*, *lompat tikam* and many more make up the abundance of desserts here.



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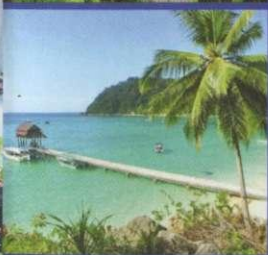
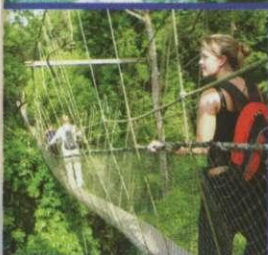
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BEYOND KELANTAN



Kelantan is a favourite stopover point for visitors from several major holiday destinations in Malaysia. Visitors can begin their holiday in Kelantan and then proceed to other popular tourist spots or come to Kelantan via other entry points (aside from Kota Bharu). Contact Tourism Malaysia Kelantan Office, the Kelantan State Tourist Information Centre or your tour agent for more information.

Perhentian Island

This is one of the most popular island destinations in the country. Made up of the larger Perhentian Besar and the smaller Perhentian Kecil, these enchanting islands offer brilliant blue waters and sparkling white sand. The colourful assemblage of corals and profusion of marine life never fail to dazzle divers.

Situated in: Terengganu

Access via: Tok Bali Jetty

Taman Negara

Taman Negara is Malaysia's premier national park, covering an area of 434,350 ha. Estimated to be about 130 million years old, it is one of the oldest rainforests in the world, with a stunningly complex and rich ecosystem. Catch a glimpse of the wildlife, or experience walking along the world's longest canopy walkway, suspended 40m above ground level.

Situated in: Taman Negara spans across three states; Pahang, Kelantan and Terengganu. Over half of its total area (including its headquarters) is in Pahang

Access via: Kuala Koh National Park

Cameron Highlands

Perched some 1,524m above sea level, Cameron Highlands is the largest hill resort in the country. This cool, refreshing retreat features majestic hills, undulating valleys and a fantasy-like mossy forest. Visit the sprawling tea plantations, terraced flower gardens, orchards and lush vegetable farms.

Situated in: Pahang

Access via: Lojing Highlands or Gua Musang

Tasik Banding

This tranquil man-made lake is situated along the East-West Highway, where it crosses the Temenggor Lake. Enjoy a leisurely holiday at the lakeside resort or go jungle-trekking to see the diversity of flora and fauna in the surrounding areas.

Situated in: Perak

Access via: East-West Highway, near to Tasik Pergau

Island

Jalan

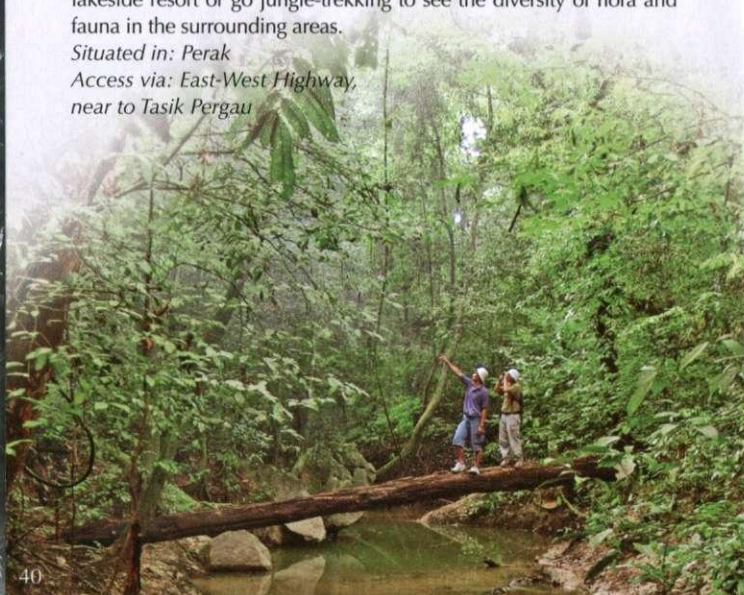
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USEFUL INFORMATION

Getting to Kelantan

By Air

Malaysia Airlines operates daily direct flights from the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) to the Sultan Ismail Petra Airport in Kelantan. The airport is situated in Pengkalan Chepa, about 20 minutes from Kota Bharu. From all other major destinations in the country, visitors can arrange for connecting flights to Kelantan. The budget carrier, AirAsia flies daily to Kelantan from the Low Cost Carrier Terminal (LCCT), situated 20km away from the KLIA Main Terminal Building.

Self-Drive

There is an excellent network of roads linking major towns in Peninsular Malaysia to Kelantan. Kota Bharu is situated about 474km from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia's capital city.

From Kuala Lumpur, the overland route takes one eastward along the Karak Highway to Kuantan in Pahang. The drive takes about three hours. From Kuantan, Kota Bharu can be reached in another 4½ hours. The inland route to Kota Bharu turns off the Karak Highway at Bentong and proceeds northwards to Raub and then to Gua Musang and Machang, before reaching Kota Bharu. An alternative route exits the Karak Highway at Temerloh and passes through Jerantut, Benta and Gua Musang en route to Kota Bharu.

By Coach

There are daily scheduled air-conditioned express bus services from Kuala Lumpur to most towns in Kelantan such as Kota Bharu, Gua Musang, Rantau Panjang, Pengkalan Kubor and Tumpat. Visitors can board the bus at Hentian Putra, in Jalan Tun Ismail (near the Putra World Trade Centre or PWTC). Both regular and VIP air-conditioned coaches are available. Visitors must be prepared to spend at least five to seven hours on the road. For this reason, some visitors prefer to travel overnight. Tickets must be purchased early during festive seasons and school holidays.

Express Bus Services from Kuala Lumpur to Kelantan

Bus Company	Telephone	Destination
Triton Express	03-4044 6591	Kota Bharu, Machang, Rantau Panjang, Pasir Mas, Tanah Merah, Pengkalan Kubor, Pasir Puteh, Bachok.
Utama Express	03-4045 2122	Kota Bharu, Gua Musang, Kuala Krai, Machang, Tanah Merah, Pasir Mas, Pengkalan Kubor.
Ekspres Darul Naim	03-4042 4202	Kota Bharu, Pasir Puteh, Tanah Merah, Pasir Mas, Rantau Panjang.
Konsortium Bas Ekspres	03-4045 6684	Kota Bharu, Kuala Krai, Machang, Pasir Mas, Tanah Merah.
Sani Express	03-4042 7222	Kota Bharu, Pasir Puteh, Kuala Krai, Tanah Merah, Machang, Pasir Mas, Rantau Panjang.
Mahligai Express	03-4042 7533	Kota Bharu, Kuala Krai, Machang, Tanah Merah, Pasir Mas, Rantau Panjang.
Budaya Express	03-4042 4550	Kota Bharu, Gua Musang, Kuala Krai, Machang, Tanah Merah, Pasir Mas, Rantau Panjang, Pasir Puteh, Pengkalan Kubor.

By Rail

Keretapi Tanah Melayu (KTM) or Malayan Railway provides daily rail services to Kelantan. Visitors from Kuala Lumpur can board the Express Wau train at the KL Sentral Station in Kuala Lumpur. The train provides access to Gua Musang, Dabong, Kuala Krai, Tanah Merah, Pasir Mas, Wakaf Baru and Tumpat. Express Wau departs Kuala Lumpur at 8.30pm daily. The estimated time of arrival in Tumpat is at 10.25am the following day.

Visitors from Johor, as well as Singapore (Malaysia's southern neighbour), can board the Express Timuran. This train departs Singapore at 6.15pm and arrives in Tumpat at 9.05am the following day. It also connects the stations mentioned above.

For further details, visit www.ktmb.com.my
(Please note that this is not the local train service).

Entry via Border Towns

Visitors from Thailand can drive into Kelantan via the three border towns. The main entry point is Golok Bridge or Jambatan Muhibbah (Bridge of Harmony). It connects Sungai Golok in Thailand to Rantau Panjang. Ferry and boat services are available from Tak Bai in Thailand to Pengkalan Kubor. The ferry is for both passengers and vehicles. A short boat ride connects visitors from Bukit Tar in Thailand to Bukit Bunga.

The border crossing at Rantau Panjang is open from 6.00am-10.00pm. The other crossings are open from 6.00am-7.00pm (Malaysian time).

* Refer to page 44 for useful contact numbers



Getting Around

There are several ways to explore this state. Visitors can self-drive along the scenic country routes, travel by the local train or even take a river cruise.

Car Rentals

Car rentals are ideal if you are travelling with your family, or if you are going outside of Kota Bharu to places such as Gua Musang. It is also ideal for shopping enthusiasts who wish to make large purchases at the border towns. Car rental agencies are situated at the airport.

Airport Taxis

Operating from the Sultan Ismail Petra Airport, these taxis provide services to various places in Kelantan. The fare is based on the distance and geographical zones. Visitors are advised to make their bookings early.

Bus Service

The local bus station is situated nearby Kampung Kraftangan (Handicraft Village). The buses here ply various parts of Kota Bharu. The Jalan Bandar Bus Station provides service to other towns outside of Kota Bharu. Outstation buses are available at the Jalan Hamzah Bus Terminal and SKMK Langgar Bus Terminal. Buses here connect Kota Bharu to Kuala Lumpur and most towns in Malaysia such as Putrajaya, Shah Alam, Penang, Alor Star, Johor Bahru as well as Singapore.

Local Train

The Keretapi Tanah Melayu's local train service operates within the Kelantan state. It connects Tumpat (at the border of Thailand) to Gua Musang (in south Kelantan). Major stations along the way are Wakaf Bharu, Pasir Mas, Tanah Merah, Kuala Krai, Manik Urai, Bukit Abu, Dabong, Kemubu, Bertam Baru and Limau Kasturi. The train service begins as early as 3.05am from Tumpat. The early morning and afternoon trains are especially crowded with school children.

Trishaw Rides

Explore and enjoy Kota Bharu in a unique and unconventional way! Trishaws offer the opportunity to watch the kaleidoscope of activities that unfold along the streets. Trishaws are usually concentrated at the Pasar Siti Khadijah area and its vicinity. Visitors are advised to agree on the price before beginning their journey.

Useful Contacts

Tourism Malaysia Kelantan Office

Kampung Kraftangan, Kota Bharu

Tel: 09-747 7554

Fax: 09-747 8010

E-mail: mtpb.kelantan@tourism.gov.my

(closed on Fridays)

Kelantan State Tourist Information Centre

Jalan Sultan Ibrahim, Kota Bharu

Tel: 09-748 5534 / 3543

Fax: 09-748 6652

(closed on Fridays)

Kelantan State Tourism Action Council

09-741 2400

South Kelantan Development Authority

09-912 1788

(KESEDAR)

Transportation

Sultan Ismail Petra Airport

09-773 7400/2/3

Malaysia Airlines

1300 88 3000

(www.malaysiaairlines.com)

03-7843 3000 (Kuala Lumpur)

09-744 7000

03-8775 4000 (Kuala Lumpur)

AirAsia

(www.airasia.com.my)

Airport Taxi

09-774 7732

Hawk Rent-A-Car

09-773 3824

Keretapi Tanah Melayu / Malayan Railway

03-2267 1200 (Kuala Lumpur)

Gua Musang Railway Station

09-912 1226

Kuala Krai Railway Station

09-966 6224

Wakaf Bharu Railway Station

09-719 6986

Tumpat Railway Station

09-725 7232

Pasir Mas Railway Station

09-790 9025

Express Bus Services from Kota Bharu

(to Kuala Lumpur and other parts of the country)

Mahligai Express

09-741 8533/633

Konsortium Bas Ekspres

09-747 4866

Cepat Express

09-747 9859

Utama Express

09-743 4817

Budaya Express

09-746 2790

Chendana Express

09-746 1055

Ekspres Darul Naim

09-743 5355

Ferry Service to Perhentian Island

Symphony Travel and Tours

09-778 0189

General Enquiries

Telekom Malaysia Directory

103

Telekom Malaysia Operator Assisted Calls

101

(Domestic and International)

Malaysian Immigration Department

03-8880 1000 (Kuala Lumpur)

(www.imi.gov.my)

Kelantan State Immigration Office

09-748 2120

Rantau Panjang Immigration Office

09-795 0344

Pengkalan Kubor Immigration Office

09-721 1300

Bukit Bunga Immigration Office

09-946 8688

Emergencies

Police

999

Fire & Rescue

994

Kota Bharu Police Station

09-748 5522





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Saying it in Malay

Good morning	<i>Selamat pagi</i>	Sea	<i>Laut</i>
Good night	<i>Selamat malam</i>	Cave	<i>Gua</i>
Thank you	<i>Terima kasih</i>	Lake	<i>Tasik</i>
Welcome	<i>Selamat datang</i>	Mosque	<i>Masjid</i>
Goodbye	<i>Selamat jalan</i>	Road	<i>Jalan</i>
How are you?	<i>Apa khabar?</i>	Bus	<i>Bas</i>
I'm fine	<i>Khabar baik</i>	Train	<i>Keretapi / Tren</i>
I'm sorry	<i>Minta maaf</i>	Taxi	<i>Teksi</i>
Rice	<i>Nasi</i>	Flight	<i>Kapal terbang</i>
Vegetables	<i>Sayur</i>	Please	<i>Tolong</i>
Meat	<i>Daging</i>	Caution	<i>Awas</i>
Fish	<i>Ikan</i>	Entrance	<i>Masuk</i>
Beach	<i>Pantai</i>	Exit	<i>Keluar</i>
		Restroom	<i>Bilik air/tandas</i>

A Practical Guide for Visitors to Kelantan

- Banks, government offices and most businesses in Kelantan operate from Sundays to Thursdays. Fridays and Saturdays are public holidays. Banking hours are from 9.15am to 4.30pm (Sundays to Wednesdays) and 9.15am to 4.00pm (Thursdays).
- Museums are closed on Fridays.
- On Fridays, there is a long lunch break from 12.15pm to 2.45pm to allow Muslims to perform their prayers at mosques. Shopping malls, service counters and most shops will be closed from 1.00pm-2.00pm.
- When entering places of worship such as mosques or temples, shoes should be removed. Most mosques provide robes and headscarves for female visitors. Taking photographs at places of worship is usually permitted but always ask for permission first.
- The majority of Muslims in the state dress modestly. Visitors are advised to do the same.
- Most Malaysians refrain from displaying affection in public (i.e. embracing or kissing). It would be appropriate for visitors to do the same.
- Muslims do not drink liquor or alcoholic beverages. Liquor is not served in restaurants or eateries in Kelantan, but is available at major hotels.
- Shopping malls in Kelantan operate until 10.00pm and most street shops close earlier. Several open-air eateries in the capital are open until late at night.
- There are no entertainment outlets in Kelantan, but rest assured, the many delightful pastimes will keep visitors occupied and entertained. Dining is a popular activity for those who like staying out late.
- Five-star and four-star accommodation is only available in Kota Bharu. In all other towns, there are comfortable chalets and modest accommodations.
- The sea can be rough during the monsoon season between October to February. Visitors are advised to practice caution while at the beach, especially if accompanied by children. Only established beach resorts continue to operate during this season.
- During boat rides, please request for safety jackets from your boat operator.

Accommodation

Kelantan offers a range of accommodation. In the capital city, accommodation ranges from star-rated hotels to affordable rooms. In main towns such as Gua Musang, visitors can find comfortable inns and rest houses. Beaches such as Pantai Cahaya Bulan, Pantai Melawi and Tok Bali offer several types of accommodation, from modern resorts to modest chalets.

KOTA BHARU

Renaissance Kota Bharu *****

Tel : 09-746 2233
Fax : 09-746 1122
E-mail : Sales@renaissance-kotabharu.com
Website : www.renaissance-kotabharu.com

Grand Riverview Hotel ****

Tel : 09-743 9988
Fax : 09-743 8883
E-mail : grh@tm.net.my
Website : www.grh.com.my

New Pacific Hotel *****

Tel : 09-745 6555
Fax : 09-745 6500
E-mail : Sales@newpacific.com.my
Website : www.newpacific.com.my

Perdana Hotel *****

Tel : 09-748 5000
Fax : 09-744 7621 / 747 8955
E-mail : Reservation@hotelperdana.com.my/
sales@hotelperdana.com.my

Sutera Inn Prima ***

Tel : 09-744 1000
Fax : 09-774 2000
E-mail : info@suterainn.com.my (enquiry)
reservation@suterainn.com (room reservation)
Website : www.suterainn.com.my

Juita Inn ***

Tel : 09-744 6888
Fax : 09-744 5777
E-mail : hotel@tm.net.my

Crystal Lodge ***

Tel : 09-747 0888
Fax : 09-747 0088
E-mail : crystlod@tm.net.my
Website : www.crystalodge.com.my

Ansar Garden Hotel **

Tel : 09-747 4000
Fax : 09-747 2255
E-mail : pkb@po.jaring.my

Dynasty Inn **

Tel : 09-747 3000 / 747 1225
Fax : 09-747 3111
E-mail : dynasty@tm.net.my

Suria Hotel **

Tel : 09-743 2255
Fax : 09-743 2555
E-mail : Suriakb@tm.net.my

Temenggong Hotel **

Tel : 09-748 3481 / 748 3130
Fax : 09-744 1481

Hotel Anda □□

(Orchid Hotel)
Tel : 09-747 7600
Fax : 09-747 6500
E-mail : hotelanda@hotmail.com

Sabriena Court

Tel : 09-744 7944
Fax : 09-741 9993

Kencana Lodge

Tel : 09-747 7222
Fax : 09-744 0181

KB Garden Hostel □□□

Tel : 09-747 4603

Paloh Inn □□□

Tel : 09-743 3629
Fax : 09-744 6277

Hotel Politan

Tel : 09-741 8888
Fax : 09-741 8889

E 'N' E Inn

Tel : 09-743 9968
Fax : 09-743 9668

Hotel Sentosa

Tel : 09-744 3200

Dani Hotel

Tel : 09-748 6790
Fax : 09-746 1784

Star Family Hotel

Tel : 09-747 8112
Fax : 09-748 2970

Sri Cemerlang Baru Lounge

Tel : 09-744 9648
Fax : 09-744 9648

Irama Timur Resthouse

Tel : 09-747 1741

Selesa Damai Inn

Tel : 013-922 9475
013-940 7143

Hotel Bahru

Tel : 09-745 3220
Fax : 09-747 0033

Flora Place

Tel : 09-747 7888
Fax : 09-747 2688
Website : www.floraplace.com.my

GUA MUSANG

Fully Inn ***

Tel : 09-912 3311/
09-912 3366/
09-912 3399
Fax : 09-912 3322
E-mail : fullyinn@tm.net.my

Kesedar Inn **

Tel : 09-912 1229/
09-912 1491
Fax : 09-912 2131
E-mail : kes-inn@tm.net.my

Evergreen Hotel

Tel : 09-912 2273

Hotel Usaha

Tel : 09-912 4003
Fax : 09-912 4002

BACHOK

Sri Melawi Chalet □

Tel : 09-778 1998

TANAH MERAH

Sri Chalet Motel

Tel : 09-955 6626
Fax : 09-955 6300

Tanah Merah Hotel □□□

Tel : 09-955 2798
Fax : 09-955 7398

* - Star rating

□ - Orchid rating (budget accommodation)

Ratings by Ministry of Tourism, Malaysia

The above listing is not exhaustive

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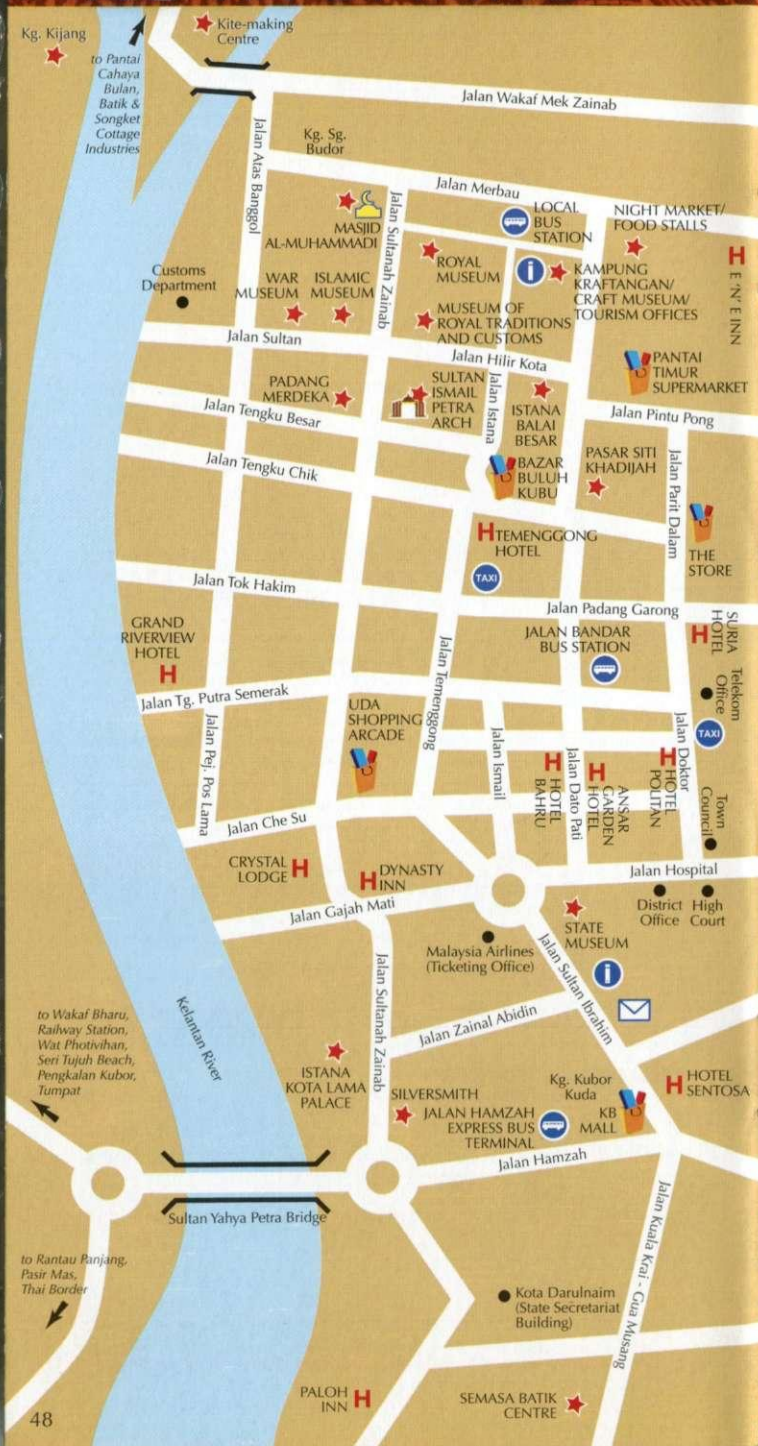
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Fast Facts on Malaysia

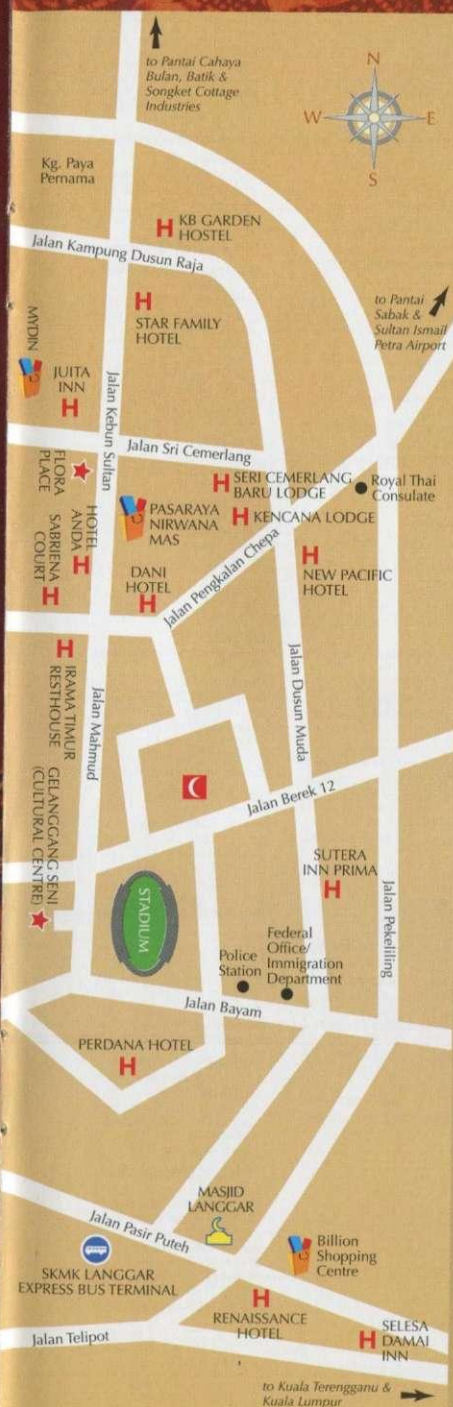
Country	The Federation of Malaysia comprises Peninsular Malaysia made up of 11 states, three Federal Territories and the states of Sabah and Sarawak in Borneo. Its capital is Kuala Lumpur.
Geographical Location	Lying 2° to 7° north of the Equator, Peninsular Malaysia is separated from Sabah and Sarawak by the South China Sea. The Peninsular shares a common border with Thailand in the north, while its southern neighbour is Singapore. Sabah and Sarawak share a common border with Indonesia while Sarawak also shares a border with Brunei Darussalam.
Area	329,758 sq km
Population	27 million
People	Malays make up about 57% of the population, with Chinese, Indians and other ethnic groups making up the rest.
Language	Bahasa Malaysia (Malay) is the national language but English is widely spoken. Malaysians also speak various languages and dialects.
Religion	Islam is the official religion but all other religions are practiced freely.
Government	Malaysia practices parliamentary democracy and constitutional monarchy. The Head of State is the Yang di-Pertuan Agong and the Head of Government is the Prime Minister. The country has a bicameral legislative system.
Climate	Malaysia has a warm tropical climate. Temperatures range from 21°C to 32°C. Annual rainfall varies from 2,000mm to 2,500mm.
Entry Requirements	Visitors must be in possession of a valid passport or travel document with a minimum validity of six months beyond the intended visiting period. Citizens of most countries do not require visas for social or business visits. For further information, please visit or call the nearest Malaysian diplomatic mission or Tourism Malaysia office.
Currency	The unit of currency is Malaysian Ringgit, which is denoted as RM. Foreign currencies can be converted at banks and money changers.
Banking Hours	Most states: Mondays-Thursdays: 9.15am-4.30pm Fridays: 9.15am-4.00pm Saturdays: 11.00am-2.00pm (major branches only) Sundays: Closed Kedah, Kelantan & Terengganu Sundays-Wednesdays: 9.15am-4.30pm Thursdays: 9.15am-4.00pm Fridays: Closed
Time	Eight hours ahead of GMT and 16 hours ahead of U.S. Pacific Standard Time.
Electricity	Voltage is 220-240 volts AC at 50Hz cycles per second.
Measurement System	Metric system.
Telephone	Local calls can be made from public phones using coins and prepaid cards. International calls can be made from public phones with phone card facilities or at any Telekom Malaysia offices.

MAP OF KOTA BHARU



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LEGEND

-  Places of Interest
-  Taxi Station
-  Bus Terminal/Station
-  Tourist Information Centre/ Tourism Office
-  Shopping Centre
-  Hotel
-  Post Office
-  Hospital
-  Mosque

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LEGEND



State Capital



District



Town



International Boundary



State Boundary



District Boundary



Federal Territory



Railway



Railway



Airport



Mosque



Chinese Temple



Hill



Cave



Waterfall



Beach



Homes



River



Lake



Jetty



River



Hot Spring

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**TOURISM
MALAYSIA**

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KEL (English) / IH / MP
May 2009

(TRAFFICKING IN ILLEGAL DRUGS CARRIES THE DEATH PENALTY)

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